

Amendment

09/913,635

IN THE CLAIMS

1-18 Canceled

19. (Previously Presented) The brake pad as claimed in claim 31, wherein the brake pad includes a carrier plate and a friction lining applied thereto.

20-27 Canceled

28. (Currently amended) ~~The brake pad as claimed in claim 31,~~ Brake pad and brake piston assembly, comprising:

a brake piston having an axis an outer surface encircled by a circumferential groove,

a first, second, and third retaining springs coupled to a brake pad, wherein said first, second, and third retaining springs engage said circumferential groove, thereby detachably coupling the brake pad to the piston,

wherein the first and second retaining springs are arranged opposite each other with respect to the piston axis, and wherein said first and second retaining springs each include a spring portion which applies an axial spring force at a contact point location on opposite sides of the piston to urge the brake pad against the piston, and wherein said third retaining spring includes a spring portion which applies a radial spring force to the brake pad at one contact point location in a vertical direction which is generally perpendicular to the piston,

wherein said first, second, and third retaining springs are separate from one another and wherein at least one of said first, second, and third retaining springs are configured in the shape of a closed wire ring.

29. (Previously Presented) The brake pad as claimed in claim 31, further comprising a retaining plate configured as a damping plate and at least one retaining member configured as a hook or eyelet embracing one of the first,

Amendment

09/913,635

second and third retaining springs, wherein said at least one retaining member is attached to said retaining plate and to at least one of said first, second, and third retaining springs.

30. Canceled

31. (Currently Amended) Brake pad and brake piston assembly, comprising:

a brake piston having an axis an outer surface encircled by a circumferential groove,

a first, second, and third retaining springs coupled to a brake pad, wherein said first, second, and third retaining springs engage said circumferential groove, thereby detachably coupling the brake pad to the piston,

wherein the first and second retaining springs are arranged opposite each other with respect to the piston axis, and wherein said first and second retaining springs each include a spring portion which applies an axial spring force at a contact point location on opposite sides of the piston to urge the brake pad against the piston, and wherein said third retaining spring includes a spring portion which applies a radial spring force to the brake pad at one contact point location in a vertical direction which is generally perpendicular to the piston,

wherein said first, second, and third retaining springs are separate from one another.

32-36 Canceled